



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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DTSC Awards Funds to Perform Site Investigation at Six Brownfields Sites

SACRAMENTO --- Responding to the critical need to redevelop and reuse Brownfield sites in many California communities, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has awarded grants to six applicants with sites located throughout California. The grants are part of the new Targeted Site Investigation program that provides important front-end site investigation work at contaminated properties. Funding for the TSI program is being provided by a Brownfields grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"DTSC is pleased to award the grants and work with these six communities in an effort to reach their ultimate goal of restoring these contaminated properties to productive use", DTSC Director Ed Lowry said. "The economic revitalization of these sites can go hand in hand with protecting public health and our environment."

The TSI program, which is being performed by DTSC in collaboration with the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCB), is available to government agencies and non-profit organizations with specific projects that involve the redevelopment of potentially contaminated properties. Site investigation activities help characterize potential sites and reduce uncertainty over the type of extent of site contamination.

Six applicants were selected to receive services that will be funded by the TSI grant:

- City of West Sacramento – Proposed development of a walk-able community with single and multi-family residential housing, commercial establishments and access to parks and the Sacramento River waterfront. The property was formerly the site of a chrome plating facility and has dilapidated buildings which are an eyesore and potential environmental hazard to the community. Located adjacent to the River Walk, the reuse plan has been hampered by the site's contamination. The up to \$140,000 TSI work will provide critical data to define the approximate extent of contamination and evaluate cleanup options and costs.
- Los Angeles – Proposed development will return a property currently being used by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to native wetlands and create recreational trails and public gathering areas. The property, located in a mixed residential and

industrial area of Los Angeles, has been used for a variety of operations over the years and is adjacent to a high school. Limited soil sampling has been conducted to date, but the up to \$65,000 in TSI services from DTSC will assist in completing the determining of the nature of the contamination.

- City of Lynwood – Four parcels that were formerly used for auto dismantling, painting activities and chemical storage will be investigated using up to \$65,000 in TSI services. Development plans include the construction of affordable housing. The TSI services will allow investigation of the site, to determine the degree of contamination, which is critical information when making development plans.
- Oakland Redevelopment Agency – Up to \$65,000 in TSI services will help to determine the types of contaminants at a site that is part of the planned Macarthur Transit Village development. The project includes mixed-use housing, ground-floor retail/flex space and affordable housing units. A variety of businesses, including fuel storage, have historically operated on the property. Buildings were removed in the 1970's and the City of Oakland purchased the property 15 years ago.
- City of Stockton - Stockton's Downtown Waterfront is being rejuvenated into a vibrant and attractive area. TSI services of up to \$75,000 will provide laboratory analysis to determine the level of contamination on a number of sites on the north side of the channel used for warehousing, boat construction and repair, metal works and open space. Future land use activities will include urban retail and entertainment-related development.
- County of Yuba – Up to \$70,000 in TSI services will be used to further proposed commercial use development in a critical area of the Olivehurst Avenue Specific Plan. Redevelopment of the site is important as the location is at the major entrance to the Olivehurst Business District. An auto repair and dismantling facility operated on the six-acre site for 30 years. Sampling services will evaluate soil contaminants associated with automobiles including heavy metals and petroleum.

The TSI efforts will assist with furthering the progress of redevelopment of these sites by providing valuable site information for local agencies to make decisions regarding reuse.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.